

# A Field Trip to Northern Wisconsin

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Finding bogs in northern Wisconsin is easy and has become quite routine. Gary Thieme and I had an opportunity in late June and early July 1989 to hike this area for about ten days, and also two days in upper Michigan and part of lower Michigan.

Our bog finding record was nine bogs in one day, each in their own depression. The greatest density of bogs was in Prince, Oneida, Vilas, and Ashland counties. So bog rich is the area that a major cranberry firm farms some of the largest bog lakes. Most of these bogs are easily accessible and are on public land, namely the Chequamegon National Forest and Northern Highland American Legion State Forest. The best CP bogs were bog lakes. Near the edge of the water were the species one expects to find on this part of the continent—*Sarracenia purpurea*, *Drosera intermedia*, *Drosera rotundifolia*, and various *Utricularias* on the moss or in the water. Walking near the edge of bog lakes is dangerous. The floating moss can be unexpectedly thin, so each footstep is taken cautiously. All the bogs were dominated by black spruce and tamarack except near the water's edge. Some of the other non-CP were cranberry, leatherleaf, labrador tea, and the pink lady slipper.

Black Spruce - Tamarack Bog Penny Lake Price Co. Wisc. Photo by Gary Thieme. (Figure 1)

*P. vulgaris* - Presque Isle Co. Mich. Growing on a rocky meadow. Photo by author. (Figure 2)

*D. intermedia* - massed on island Hummock - Penny Lake. Photo by author. (Figure 3)

3 species of CP on edge of a bog lake - *S. purpurea*, *D. intermedia*, yellow flower Utric. Mackinac Co. Mich. Photo by author. (Figure 4)

Figure 1





Figure 2



Figure 3

Figure 4

